

From: Dieter Bohn
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 9:05am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement: Reject it.

To Whom It May concern

I oppose the proposed settlement between Microsoft and the Dept. of Justice. As it currently stands, the settlement lacks sufficient penalties for Microsoft's actions. More importantly, the settlement does not provide for any meaningful rectification of the present situation. In fact, in my opinion, it serves only to solidify Microsoft's dominance of the consumer market and to limit growth, innovation, ease of use, progress, and a host of other benefits to the industry.

I am an average computer user. My learning curve with regards to computers has been severely hampered by Microsoft's poor software and poor support. This in itself is not a crime. What is a crime is that I have been hampered significantly in my efforts to find alternatives to the Microsoft OS, browser, office suite, etc. Microsoft has used its monopolistic hold on the OS market to take over other markets. It is once again attempting to do this now with XP, and is publicly planning to again with .Net.

Only a settlement that punishes Microsoft for its past actions and seeks to seriously rectify the damage that has been done to the market is acceptable. As it stands, it is nothing more than a slap on the wrist, nay, a pat on the back.

Please reject the proposed settlement.

Sincerely,

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